

**Town of Royalston  
Board of Selectmen's Meeting  
Tuesday, December 5, 2006  
7:00 p.m.**

Present: Andrew West, Chairman and Thomas Kellner, Clerk. Member Linda Alger was absent.

1. Chairman West called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.
2. The minutes of the 11/21/06 meeting were read. Mr. Kellner made a motion to approve the minutes with one amendment. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.
3. Acknowledgements/Announcements/Correspondence:
  - a) Mr. West stated that he has spoken with the Assessors, who said that they are still on track to get bills sent out in late January. They also said that they would be willing to send out preliminary tax bills next year.
  - b) Mr. Kellner gave a brief synopsis of the debriefing held two weeks ago regarding the recent search & rescue incident.
  - c) The Board signed a letter to be sent in conjunction with the Water Department to Senator Brewer requesting his assistance in getting funding for a fence around the water tank.
4. 7:30 p.m. – Tax Classification Hearing: After some discussion and a recommendation from the Assessors, Mr. West made a motion to keep the tax classification of one, which means that all properties in town are taxed at the same rate. Mr. Kellner seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. The Tax Classification hearing was closed at 7:35 p.m.
5. 7:36 p.m. – Reconvened Pole Hearing, Brown Road: Mr. West opened the pole hearing. Scott Burns from Verizon stated that placement of two poles had been changed as recommended. Mr. Kellner made a motion to grant conditional approval for placement of the poles on Brown Road pending positive results at the Tree Hearing to be held on 12/12/06. Mr. Burns requested that pole hearings be held after tree hearings in the future in order to smooth out the process. Mr. West stated that they would follow that process the next time. He will notify Helen Divoll of the updated process. The pole hearing closed at 7:41 p.m.
6. Department Head Reports:
  - a) Fire Department:
    - 1) Chief Wayne Newton read his report, which is attached as part of these minutes. Discussion was held regarding possible funding from a FEMA grant, which requires a 5% match from the town. Kelly Newton said that FEMA has to see that these matching funds have been put aside in good faith. A special town meeting may need to be scheduled. Mr. West requested more information on the process for receiving the funds.
    - 2) Mr. West will check into Service Zoning Planning and advise Chief Newton of what information is required from the Fire Department.
    - 3) Mr. West asked Chief Newton if he has pursued a health certificate from his doctor as requested by the Board previously. Chief Newton stated that he had not.

7. New Business:

- a) 2007 Liquor License Renewals – Chief Deveneau had reported that there have been no incidents at the locations requesting renewals. Mr. Kellner made a motion to renew the liquor license at Cloutier's Pete & Henry's. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Mr. Kellner moved to renew the liquor license at the Royalston General Store, with Mr. West seconding, and the Board voting unanimously in favor. Mr. Kellner made a motion to renew the liquor license at the Winchendon Rod & Gun Club. Mr. West seconded, and the vote was unanimous in favor.
- b) Geoffrey Newton, Building Inspector, reported on structural problems at the Royalston Community School. He also presented boilerplate articles about collection of fees to revolving accounts referencing MGL Chapters and Sections for the Board's consideration.

8. Old Business:

- a) Brenda Putney has indicated to Mr. West that she wants to transfer \$100,000 from Stabilization to pay the school district. The Board approved this transfer.

9. The Treasury Warrant was signed.

10. At 9:00 p.m., Mr. Kellner made a motion to adjourn. Mr. West seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Minutes recorded by Diana Newton.